

Amendments to the Specification

Kindly replace the original abstract at page 96 with the following:

ABSTRACT

Activation by CD40 ligand of cells bearing CD40 on their cell surface is inhibited by contacting the cells with an anti-CD40L antibody capable of inhibiting interaction between CD40 ligand and the cells, in an amount effective to inhibit activation of the cells, wherein the CD40-bearing cells are selected from fibroblasts, T cells, basophils, macrophages, Reed-Steinberg cells, keratinocytes and endothelial cells found in tissues selected from spleen, thyroid, muscle, kidney and lung. Methods of treating conditions dependent on CD40 ligand-induced activation in specified cells are provided. The invention further provides methods of inhibiting an inflammatory response, including methods of treating vasculitis, by treating a subject in need thereof with an anti-CD40L antibody.